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HISTORY OF EARLIEST ANN ARBOR

(Illustrated)

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Nessie Idell Schepeler-Van-Der Werker

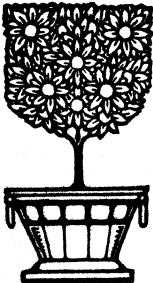
Ann Arbor---Past and Present



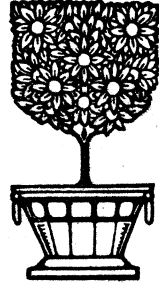
IN the story of Ann Arbor as the annalist will record it in the years to come there is a name—the name of one



of our local industries—which is destined to stand out conspicuously. This industry, while still in its infancy, is growing rapidly and is now compounding at its laboratories in this city more than one hundred different high-grade drug and chemical products.

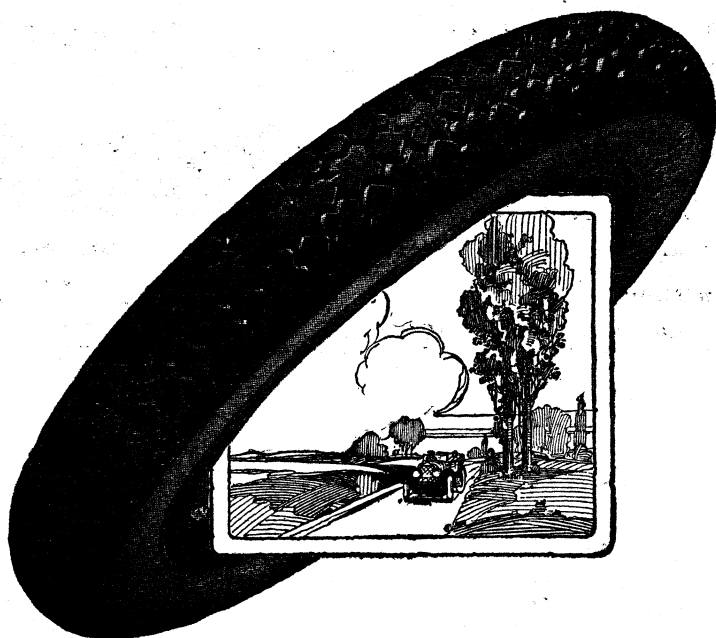


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FOREWORD

By H. B. HUTCHINS
President of the University of Michigan.

I have been asked to write a word as to the University and Ann Arbor fifty years ago. I arrived here from northern New Hampshire September 15, 1867. The fact that I had used during my preparatory course text books of four University of Michigan professors was a controlling one when I came to select a university. Many friends thought it strange that I should leave New England, with its opportunities for higher education, and enter a western university. I did so because I was impressed by the scholarly work of Professors Frieze, Boise, Olney, and Fasquelle, as evidenced by their publications, and by the liberal and democratic spirit of the University, as indicated in its catalogue and announcements. Moreover, the University, although small as compared with the institution of today, was even then one of the large universities of the country. The catalogue of 1867-68 shows a faculty list of thirty-five and an attendance in all departments of twelve hundred and seventy-three students and that most of the states of the Union and several foreign countries were represented in the student body.

The university buildings at that time comprised what are now the north and south wings of University Hall, a law building about one-third the size of the present building, a building for the medical department, a small chemical laboratory, and four professors' houses. These buildings were on the campus. In addition to these was the astronomical observatory, which since that day has been materially enlarged.

In 1867 State Street was a residence street. Business had not then invaded the university section of the city. Most of the territory immediately south of the university was open commons. The present residential section on and south of Hill Street and west of Washtenaw Avenue was, as I recollect, the county fair ground. Ann Arbor was then a city of about six thousand, and most attractive.

Life at this time in university circles and in the city was simple in the extreme. As a rule the students came from modest homes and were obliged to exercise the strictest economy. Social functions were few and of the inexpensive sort. The rather elaborate social life of the modern university was unknown.

But in that day of small things and the simple life, the university was doing a great work. The institution was most fortunate in its early faculties, for in each were men of extraordinary intellectual force and large attainments, great personalities who impressed themselves upon students and public alike, and in no uncertain way. Those were days of sacrifice and earnest endeavor, and their fruitage was abundant.

Ann Arbor, Michigan,
July 26, 1919.

The writer of these few pages has found the work of writing a history of early Ann Arbor most interesting and her only regret is that it had to be curtailed on account of time and space. New matter has come to hand which is of value to the records of this subject. It is her hope to continue this history up to the present time. She earnestly asks those who have any knowledge of facts in the lives of those noble people, the pioneers, to mail her such matter and credit will be given to them in the next publication. The author wishes to acknowledge and thank President Hutchins, Librarian Bishop, U. of M. Library; Miss Loving, Public Library, the Misses Douglas, Huron Street; G. F. Allmendinger, Alumni Association of University of Michigan, High School; Mayor Wurster, Rev. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Harry McCormick, Mr. Zana King, Mrs. Reynolds, Wall Street; Mr. C. E. Rhead, Regent J. E. Beale, Andrew Andrews, Second Hand Store; Fred Heusel, Jr., Mrs. St. James and W. T. Schepeler for their help and encouragement and for the loan of pictures and cuts.

Nettie Idell Schepeler-Van Der Werker.



EARLY BUILDINGS ON MAIN ST., 1850, WHERE
B. MUEHLIG'S STORE NOW STANDS.

(Loaned by Mrs. St. James)

History of Earliest Ann Arbor

A city, an aggregation of individuals, has had its periods of development, change, prosperity and adversity, sickness and recovery, and its progress from humble beginnings slowly. Its growth might be likened to a river that had its source in a small obscure spring way back in the forest, and courses onward for great distances, fed by other streams until it becomes like the majestic Hudson. So this city, teeming with its busy men, began in a group of lowly huts and cabins, and increased from within and from without, by immigration and births, until it reached its present proportions.

If all the experiences of the first people who settled here could be described with graphic pen, the story would be full of romance. Upon these grounds, and along these rivers as they wind, savages roamed and built their wigwams. These waters have echoed to the war-whoop, and the shriek of the despairing was heard in unison with the moan of the waves along the shores. The white men who came to this FAR WEST were of an adventurous nature, who sought fortune in this untrodden new region. These hardy pioneers longed for the freedom of this wild and primitive country. Woman, ever clinging fondly to man, came with the bold and daring adventurer to cheer and encourage him in his endeavors, and to help him in the hardships of frontier life. They have exhibited heroism and nobleness, and proven themselves man's true helpmeet.

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Walking along these streets today it is difficult to realize the hardships which oppressed the early settlers. One of the perplexities of the pioneer was the mud, which seemed bottomless at times. Where this city prospers in all its beauty, with clean and paved streets, deep basements, dry cellars, and buildings of two or more stories high, the water stood during a portion of each year. Teams struggled, or helplessly "slewed" in the deep mud, and often a wagon would sink so deep that little remained above ground to indicate where the remainder lay.

History records Jacques Marquette as the first white man to set foot in Michigan. At this time Michigan was a part of the Northwest Territory. In 1800 it became a part of Indiana Territory, and was organized as a separate Territory in 1805.

Detroit was founded by Antoine de la Motte Cadillac, in 1701, who established a colony of speculative fur traders for the purpose of trade with the Indians. During the Revolutionary war Detroit was the base of operations for the British.



(Loaned by University of Michigan)

OLD CAMPUS IN ITS EARLIEST DAYS.

While Michigan was a Territory the United States government made five leading (post) roads in the territory, all diverging from Detroit.

Previous to 1825 the settlers followed Indian trails or paths, blazed by themselves through forests.

Horses, mules and oxen were the only means of travel from Detroit until the Michigan Central Railroad was finished to Ypsilanti in 1837 and thence to Ann Arbor in 1839. This was the cause of general rejoicing. A thousand visitors from Detroit were brought on the cars to Ann Arbor and a banquet was spread on the Court House Square. Toasts were indulged in and a good time marked the celebration of the first train into Ann Arbor. The railroad was built to distribute new settlers in the parts of the country where there were but few inhabitants. Emigration to Michigan had been held in check by erroneous reports of danger from Indians, bad roads, and poor soil.

Michigan's admission into the Union was retarded also by its controversy with Ohio over the boundary line. She finally

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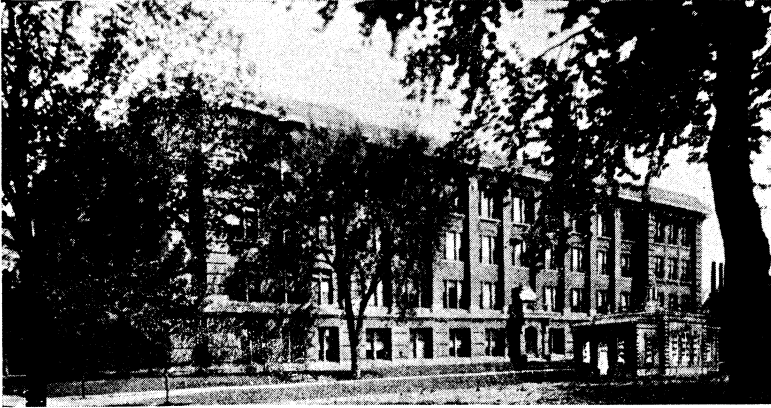
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relinquished the part in dispute to Ohio and accepted what is known as the "Upper Peninsula" from Congress in its stead, and was accepted into the Union January 26, 1837.

Lewis Cass was an able Governor and under his rule (1814-1831) emigration into the Territory began. Another wonderful stimulus was given to the growth and prosperity of the Territory by the completion of the Erie Canal, October 4, 1825. "Clinton's Big Ditch," as it was sometimes called. This connected the waters of the Hudson with Lake Erie and freight could be carried more cheaply by canal than ordinary roads.

It was not unusual for a man to come here alone, pick out his land and then go back after his wife and children, bringing also a yoke or two of oxen, a cow, a few pieces of lumber, and some furniture. He would plod on and on, up and down hill, fording brooks perhaps already stained with flood-water, and crossing barren wastes. Sometimes the morning was grey and cloudy, and the air sharp; or a shower was falling. Again they would get caught in a swamp into which the



(Loaned by University of Michigan)

OLD CHEMISTRY BLDG., BUILT IN 1856, AND NEW CHEMISTRY BLDG.

horses sank to the fetlock, or a wall of mist lay like a pall over all the country, closing their view. Some reached their destination late at night, after groping through a by-way near a river or pond, set with holes and willow stools and frog spawns—a place no better than a slough. These folks were not looking for a dreary, hopeless future, but often their hopes sank to the dead level of despair. They came to these parts to seek homes and it was an earnest business with them. They had to find or make a way to travel, and they were often at their wits' end to find their way out of an impassible mud-hole, or over a broad marsh cut up into a hotch-potch, by the passage of heavily-loaded wagons over it; or to invent a means to extricate their wagons from the mire. But they were buoyed up and cheered on their pilgrimage from day to day by the thought of soon reaching a spot they could call their own.

Halting for the night at taverns along the route, they would sit around a cheerful fireplace narrating their adventures and listen to those of others.

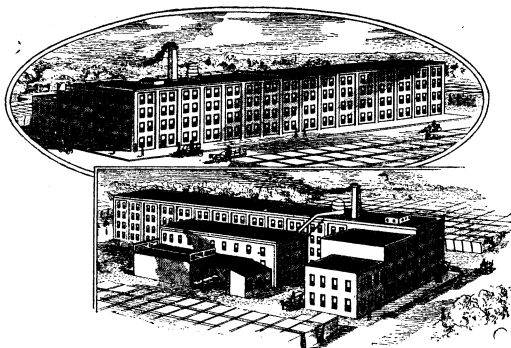
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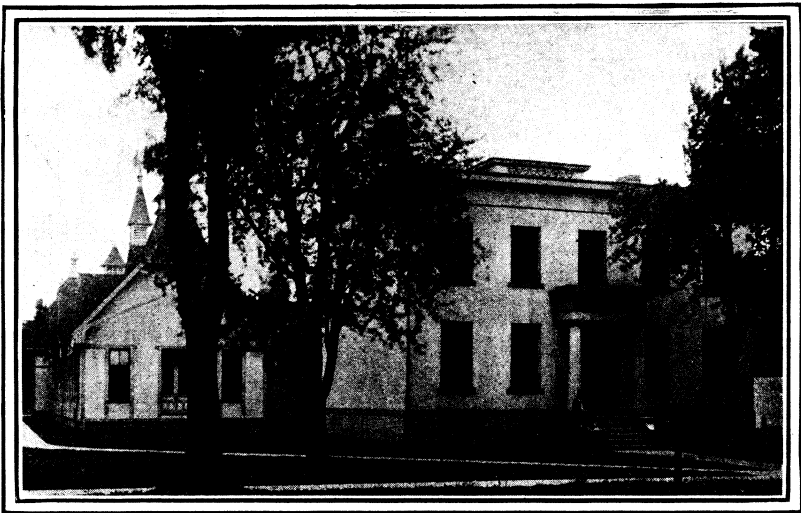
In 1809 three French traders settled at Ypsilanti. They were Gabriel Godfrey, F. Pepin and L. Le Shambre. This formed the first settlement in Washtenaw county.

For a number of years after the first settlement there were a number of tribes of Indians here. They were the Ojibwas, Ottawas, Hurons, and Pottawatomies. They frequently returned after they were forced to abandon these parts, causing much fear among the pioneer settlers.

For a number of years Detroit was the metropolis where the early settlers were compelled to go for their flour or meal, the journey requiring nearly a week's time.

The first steamer on the lakes was "Walk-in-the-Water."

Before introducing the pioneers who first settled here, let us turn our thoughts to those log cabin days of ancestral beginnings. Here we stand in deep reverie as our eye pictures the LOG CABIN and we learn how it came into existence.



(Loaned by U. of M. Alumni Association)

OLD DENTAL BUILDING.

Upon his arrival the pioneer started to build his cabin. The horses, mules, or oxen were hobbled and left to graze in the fields. The family slept in their wagons or on the grass until their home was ready to occupy. Announcement was made to far and near pioneers when a cabin was to be raised and each settler would yoke his oxen, shoulder his ax, and assist his brother in need. The logs were cut in proper lengths and hauled to the spot with oxen. Uniform logs were felled and notched at the ends with an ax for the purpose of holding them firmly, as well as to bring them nearer together. The spaces between were filled with split pieces of wood, called clinkers, and fastened with clay mortar. Hand spikes, forks and skids were used to raise the logs to their positions. A man at each corner prepared the notches with an ax. A cross-cut saw was used to cut the openings for doors, windows and fire place. The doors were made of rough boards with wooden hinges. A wooden latch on the inside was manipulated without by pulling

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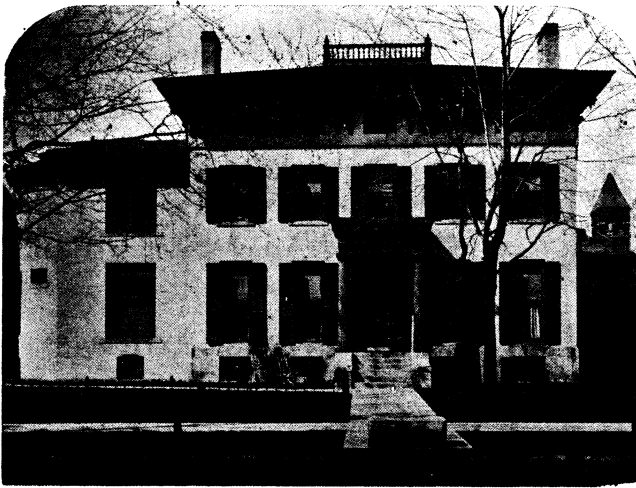
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a string that hung outside and passed through a "gimlet" hole in the door, fastened to the latch inside. Thus the familiar saying, "The latch string is always out," which is equivalent to saying, "you are always welcome to our home." For protection at night the latch string was pulled in. Sometimes the window was of glass, but oftener the opening was covered with greased paper. The floors were usually made of split logs. The cellar was merely a hole in the ground and was entered by taking up a piece of floor. Rough poles were required to make the ladder that reached the floor above. Here the older children or guests slept among the piles of hickory and walnuts, and under the strings of dried pumpkins and apples, which hung from the rafters. Some of the bedsteads were made by driving crotches through holes in the floor, small poles laid on the crotches and corded with elm bark.



(Loaned by U. of M. Alumni Association)

PRESIDENT ANGEL'S RESIDENCE.

The materia medica of the pioneer was an ample supply of catnip, sage, tansy, boneset, and other herbs hung ready for use in the chamber above.

The implements used by the settlers were few. The ax was constantly in use, and was always kept in first class order.

The domestic animals comprised a small flock of sheep, a yoke or two of oxen, a cow, some hogs, and a few geese. These latter furnished many a feather bed for the new housekeeper, for it was the custom in those days for every mother to give her daughter a feather bed with which to begin housekeeping.

The pioneer's library consisted of the Bible, Hymn-book, Bunyan's Holy War, and Pilgrim's Progress, Baxter's Saints' Rest, a History of the Revolutionary War, Gulliver's Travels, and Robinson Crusoe.

Another pleasant recollection of "ye olden days" is the "Old Oaken Bucket That Hung in the Well," fastened to the well with a hickory withe, and the gourd, tide to the curb,

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Inside the Cabin.

Upon crossing the threshold, a wide fire place stands to the left of us upon whose crane hangs the old tea kettle and the great iron pot. At either corner stands the shovel and tongs, while the andirons are in readiness to receive the huge log. The trusty rifle hangs over the fire place. The spinning wheel is at the right of the fire place and mother's work stand at the left. Upon this lies the family Bible, evidently much used, as it records the births, deaths and marriages of family and friends. It has just been used, as mother's spectacles are inserted between the leaves. The loom stands sentinel at one end of the room. Opposite the door stands a large deal table; by its side the dresser with puter plates and shining delf. In a curtained corner is the mother's bed, and under it the trundle bed, while near this a ladder indicates where the older children sleep. A stool, well notched, a bench, whittled and carved, and a few chairs complete the symmetry of our cabin, all standing on a coarse but well-scoured floor, which has no carpet or covering. The aged pioneer chokes with emotion when he recalls these symbols of trials and privations, of loneliness and danger, but the first pages of our history are written within these chinked and mud-daubed cabins, and as we pass out through the low doorway, we note the heavy battened door, its wooden hinges, and its ever welcoming latch-string.

The Log Cabin as a Home.

This log house, with its plain furnishings and its fire place, was a comfortable abode. After a hard day's work, the settler, with his family seated around the glowing flames, enjoyed the luxury of his magnificent fires. There was an art in building a good fire; laying down the back-log and fore-stick correctly, and building the fire thereon, in such a manner that with a little kindling the fire could be started and would give out the most heat and light to the household.

For evening lights, if the fire was too dull, some fat was put in a saucer (a piece of pork sometimes was fried for that purpose), a rag twisted for a wick, was coiled about in the grease, with one end left out on the edge of the saucer to be lighted. When grease could not be had bark was gathered from the shagbark walnut tree and thrown on the fire. This gave a bright blaze and was quite lasting.

The settler's daily fare was frugal. The provision in store was usually wheat, corn, pork and potatoes. The fruit consisted of wild cherry, plums and various berries. Honey was abundant in some localities. Often meats were scarce as well as salt. Tea, coffee, sugar and butter were rarely on their table. Leaves of an herb called the tea-weed and found in the woods, was steeped and drunk. Coffee was made from toasted crusts, from wheat or browned grains. The usual meal comprised a platter of boiled potatoes, piled up steaming hot and placed in the center of the table; bread or johnny cake, and perhaps some meat boiled or fried.

The good housewife swung the old iron crane, suspended over the fire place with its various pothooks and links of chain, at will, hanging on it the kettles that contained the meal or potatoes to be cooked for the family. Pigs, chicken, and spare-

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ribs were roasted splendidly by suspending them on a wire before the fire. The gravy as it oozed out was caught in an iron pan which rested on the hearth. Some of the cabins had a bake oven, which was made in one side of the chimney, having a door opening into the room. Iron covered kettles were used for these bakings. Others used the "tin reflector," which was placed before the fire to bake bread, cake and potatoes.

The early settlers, combining pleasure with business, held what were known as "Bees," and these were attended by old and young. When a cabin was to be built, logging, husking, apple peeling or quilting to be done, the entire community came to assist.

The Husking-Bee was the pioneer's delight. Sometimes the heap of corn was divided into two parts, and the parties chosen to husk against each other. This gave occasion for competition. Occasionally a red ear was found and if by a young man, he had the right to kiss the prettiest girl, while if it were found by a miss, it was a sure sign she would be married that year. At an "apple cutting" the apples were peeled, quartered and cored. This was enlivened by one or all singing songs or telling stories, and as there were few books in the settlement this was a pleasant way of cultivating the faculty of narration and imparting information. A large supper usually followed. The merry making was seldom marred by any unpleasant incident and all returned home at an early hour in the morning, ready to repeat the same frolic at some other neighbor's house the next moonlight night.

We must not forget the "fever'n ager" of the old settlers. They all had it and knew when it was coming on by the finger nails turning blue. The disease tortured its victim with intense cold, then with burning heat. The doctors were unable to ward it off or "cure" it and many remedies were tried. One remedy which was said to be a sure cure and which was tried by many, consisted in paring the finger and toe nails, wrapping them in tissue paper, and burying them in a hole in a maple tree. This hole was then plugged up. It would not be hard for us to imagine whether this cured the disease or not. The illness had several phases. Some had it every day, some had it every other day, and the calendar therefore was divided into well and ague days, and plans made accordingly. Can you imagine anything more tantalizing for a lover who has waited until he could have a well day on which to "spark" his sweetheart, than to arrive at her home and find her shaking with the disease and having it every day?

Another irrespector of person, party, sex or creed was the mosquito. Just as soon as twilight let her curtain down these little recluse imps would sally out from their fastnesses, and with a flourish of trumpets call their vast hordes together.

At the time our story opens, Washtenaw county was an unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by the crafty red men, who roamed at will over plain or through forest, fishing in the beautiful rivers, or hunting the game that abounded on all sides; living for the present only, and seemingly thoughtless of the morrow. Little did this savage man realize that when the white man penetrated his domain, he would soon have to be transplanted to a region "toward the setting sun," and this whole scene undergo a change.



Back in August, 1896, Mr. J. F. Schaeberle opened a music store at 114 W. Liberty street. Nine years later he took in as partner his son, Ernest, from which time on the establishment was known as Schaeberle & Son, the present name of our business. Through conscientious effort and honest ideals our business grew steadily and we soon outgrew our quarters at 114 W. Liberty street. Mr. J. F. Schaeberle acquired the property at 110 S. Main street in 1907, and after remodeling the building, we moved to our new quarters in the fall of the same year. The honest principles of merchandising and courteous treatment of our patrons laid down by Mr. J. F. Schaeberle twenty-three years ago have been and are being scrupulously adhered to. We have merited the confidence of the public during the past and hope and expect to merit full confidence in the future.

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We earnestly invite you to see us when in need of anything in Music or Musical Instruments.

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Music House

110 S. Main St.

Ann Arbor, Mich.

The husbandman must break up the plains with all their beautiful flowers, and plant grain for the use of civilized man therein; forests had to be felled and clearings made for the home of man.

The soil was unvexed and the cabin of the settler, with its smoke curling heavenward, was not to be seen until Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Walker Rumsey built their log cabin in 1824 and occupied it as a home, opening their door and inviting the new comer to enter. This new home, which did service as a tavern as well, became known as the "Washtenaw Coffee House," and many of the pioneers stopped here to rest. Oftentimes their accommodations were not sufficient and guests had to sleep on the floor.

When Springtime came the ground had to be prepared for planting. Mother took care of the household duties, while father took possession of the plow, the daughter driving. The pioneer girl knew little of fashion, thought less of fine clothes, wore leather boots, and was happy to drive the plow for her father.

An attractive feature of pioneer life was the wedding. A home was built and made ready for occupancy. The wedding took place at the bride's home and all the neighbors, both old and young, anticipated it with eager expectation. The intimate friends of the groom would gather at the father's house early to make due preparations, and all would depart together for the home of the bride. Some made the journey on horseback, others on foot, while the more fortunate ones would ride in farm wagons and carts, drawn by horses or oxen. A supper was served after the ceremony and then dancing was the order. The three or four handed reels or square sets and jigs were indulged in until about nine o'clock, when some of the girls would steal the bride, ascend the ladder to the loft, and put her to bed. This done, some of the boys took possession of the groom and escorting him to the bride chamber, placed him snugly in bed. The dancing continued until about midnight.

Kentucky jean was the fashionable material for the bridegroom and calico for the bride.

Few of the pioneers to Michigan brought their spinning wheels, as there were but few sheep, and new ways of working up the wool were in use by the time they became abundant. Home made material was bought from New England and New York. This comprised cheap, coarse cloth which was made up by the wives and daughters and answered the purpose. The pioneers were busy folks and as long as a cloth would wear well they cared little as to its coarseness or how a garment was cut; neither would anyone criticise the fit.

Mirrors were not a common piece of furniture in those days and many a bride and groom have prepared themselves for their wedding without this article. Later, when new tinware came into these parts a shining wash boiler or dish pan did the service of the mirror.

The doctor rode through the country on horseback, with his medicines in saddle bags. His calls were few, as the people used various decoctions supposed to have healing qualities, while the women were mid-wives to one another.

The minister in these parts traveled by horse, over vast territory. Following is a summary of one "Circuit Rider," as they

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Handicraft Furniture Company

were called, taken from a speech when seventy years old, and which describes his life and work briefly:

"How often, how often, have I swam my horse across midnight rivers, carrying the glad tidings of salvation to settlements in the wilderness, when the fearful cry of the wolves rang in my ears, and the watch-fires of the hostile Indians blazed beneath the giant pines? How often have I wandered through the tall grass of the planes, day after day, and night after night, with my overcoat for my evening pillow, and the star gemmed vault of heaven for the curtains of my rest! I was sad, but I was comforted. I was thirsty, but my spirit had refreshment. I was weary, but the arm of the Omnipotent sustained my fainting footsteps, and I laid my head upon the bosom of Peace. I was far from man—in silence—alone; and yet not alone, for my God was with me—the Savior was by my side."

Ann Arbor.

We are told that John Allen, who had a marvelous instinct for scenting events beforehand, set out from Virginia in the finest weather, without a cloud in the sky, without a cloud on his mind, joyous and strong, calm and decided, great in resolution and spirit of adventure. He reached Cleveland, but how, we are left to conjecture. Here he met and became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Rumsey. He approached them with his adventurous story and invited them to accompany him. They lent an ear to his various arguments; had faith in his loyalty and discretion and were persuaded to wander with him. This was in the latter part of the month of February, in the year 1824, when this little cavalcade rode quietly into what is now the City of Ann Arbor, dropped reins on their sorrels' necks, dismounted, tethered their horses, made their oxen comfortable, and chose this for their abode.

We are forced to spare our readers the prosaic incidents of this journey for lack of information. They made a tent of boxes and blankets near the creek where they found a spring of water and contiguous to a magnificent group of tall trees. No doubt they used their ox sleigh for a floor.

Soon Mrs. Rumsey prepared a meal which was eaten with apparent appetite. They were much in need of rest and as darkness deepened behind them they made themselves as comfortable as possible for the night. Scarcely had they retired when the howl of wolves was heard in the distance, together with the whistling of the night breeze among the bushes and trees. Looking out, a black blotch could be discerned standing out from the gray duskiness of the night. These nocturnal travelers, however, did them no other harm than give them a good scare, causing them to be somewhat wakeful, pondering what to do; it was so strange, so terrifying, listening to these formidable creatures.

These two families lived together in a tent and an "arbor" all summer. In the meantime both men built cabins. Mr. Rumsey's was built on higher ground north of their tent on the south side of Huron street, about where the St. James Hotel now stands.

Mrs. Rumsey was the only white woman in the settlement until the 29th of May, when Mr. and Mrs. Isa L. Smith came

1869

1919

Fifty Years of Successful Banking

The Ann Arbor Savings Bank

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

Capital paid in	- - -	\$ 50,000.00
Capital earned	- - -	250,000.00
Total capital	- - -	300,000.00
Surplus and profits earned	- - -	300,000.00
Resources over	- - -	4,000,000.00

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with their one-year-old daughter. They came on foot from Detroit, over the Pottawatomie trail, transporting their luggage on their backs.

At this time of the year the road was fresh and pleasant; the landscape was variegated with numerous specks announcing future wild flowers; tall trees, with the foliage enclosed in down of their buds; the grass was bursting at their feet; a breeze, perfumed by the blossoming woods, sighed along the road and gave them welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith left Detroit on foot in the month of May, at two o'clock in the afternoon. They spent the first night at Ten Eyck's Tavern. This is located about where Dearborn now stands. They got an early start the next morning for the second part of their journey. The sun had not yet risen and the air was raw. The sky was grey and cloudy. They went steadily down the path until the trees and shadows hid them. They felt less heavy and less disturbed than might have been expected. No obstacle retarded their pace and they reached Woodruff's Grove, where they spent the second night. After a night's refreshing sleep they continued their route on foot, trudging along slowly beneath the warm and pleasant sun of this day. The tops of the trees rose above them so that their path was by turns luminous and dark, and this checkered the ground of their way, according as trees were more or less in leaf. They reached their destination on the third day and were given shelter with the Rumsey family for three weeks, when Mr. Smith constructed a makeshift habitation by supporting an inverted wagonbox on poles driven into the earth, and suspending quilts to the edge. This gave a partial protection from the chilly night air. This gave place to a temporary residence made of poles, covered with bark peeled from trees; this in its turn was exchanged in the fall for a log house built north of the Court House Square on land later occupied by J. and P. Donnelly. Soon after, Mr. Smith built a house on the south side of Huron street, at the corner of First. This was later owned by Weil Brothers. Here they lived for several years and two of his children were born in this place. The first, a boy, was named "Elisha Walker Rumsey Smith." This birth occurred November 24, 1825, and the boy was to have received a village lot from Mr. Rumsey, but both the boy and Mr. Rumsey died in 1827.

Mr. Smith was a carpenter and acquired a comfortable means of subsistence by building houses during the day and manufacturing bedsteads in the evening. He built thirteen houses in the new settlement. He would build a house, move into it and sell the one he lived in. He erected the first school house, which stood on the site now occupied by the Zion Lutheran church, corner of Washington street and Fifth avenue. He built that part of the Huron Block known as the G. Ludholz estate, corner of Broadway and Canal streets, in 1831, occupying one part as a bakery and residence. He opened up a grocery and dry goods department in another part, with a cabinet shop above. In 1836 he sold these comfortable quarters to Ingalls and Morgan. In 1839 he bought a house of John Everett. This was his place of business until he died, February 13, 1844. He lived for his last seven years at the corner of Brown and Traver streets.

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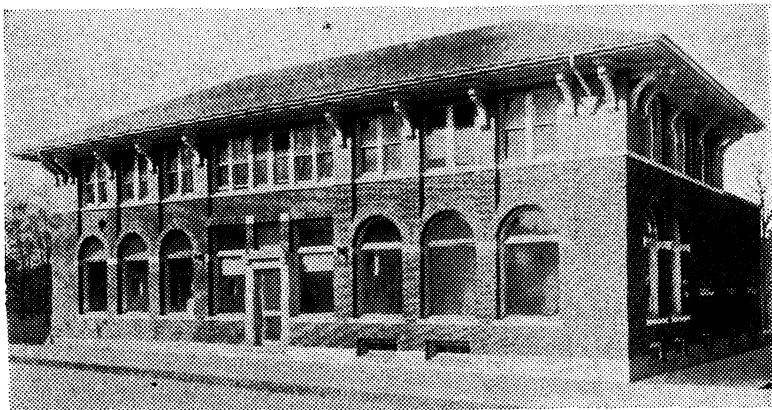
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George W. Noyes and wife had heard of government land selling at \$1.25 an acre here in Michigan and decided to pack up their effects into a double wagon hitched to a valuable team and drive to Detroit. This they did, but upon arriving at Detroit they had only a dollar left, so they sold their team and started for Woodruff's Grove. Here they sojourned until June, 1824, when they made up their minds to locate at Ann Arbor, arriving a few days after Mr. and Mrs. Smith came.

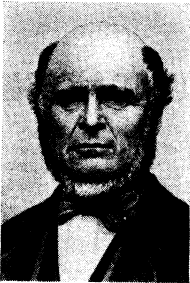
The date of James Noyes' arrival is not given, but he is reported to have built the third house in the town.

Andrew Nowland, wife and seven children came in June, 1824.

In June the ground was covered with wild flowers of all colors. It was like traveling through a flower garden. The openings were in gentle rolling swells and from these could be seen miles of open country, upon which herds of deer, from ten to fifteen in number, fed upon acorns. No wonder these first settlers thought this a beautiful country.

George Noyes was killed at the "raising" of a building for Andrew Nowland, in 1826.

Dr. David E. Lord arrived and built a home here in the summer of 1824. He was the first physician in the county, and also served as County Clerk from 1827 to 1830.



JOHN ALLEN'S SON

In October, 1824, an animated group, consisting of John Allen's entire family, came up the narrow woodland path to the first roofs of the new settlement. The clatter of horses' hoofs broke the quiet of the sleepy village and the villagers, hearing them, met and escorted the new folks to the block house which was to be their future home. Mr. Allen's joy was now complete and his face beamed with pleasure. He now had his family with him. They lived in this place for two years, when it was sold to John Allen's brother, James T. Allen, for \$300.00. He then removed his family to a house which was situated on the site later owned by Mr. Polhemus and used by him for a livery stable, on North Main street, now occupied by the Independent Taxicab Company.

Mr. Allen's block house stood on the northwest corner of Huron and Main streets, where the Ann Arbor Savings Bank now stands. Mr. John Hereford had a small stock of merchandise in a corner room of this house, fronting on Main street, and thus Mr. Hereford became the first merchant of the village. This house was painted a blood red and the corner became known as the "Bloody Corners." Cyrus Beckwith was the second merchant in the town.

The first mill erected west of Detroit was built by John Allen's father soon after his arrival. The machinery was very primitive. The cog wheels were made of maple wood.

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How Ann Arbor Got Its Name.

Both Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Rumsey were named "Ann" and took much pleasure in each other's company. It was but a step from either's threshold to an arbor, consisting of wild plum trees covered with a thick foliage of wild grape vines. This cast a shade and made a pleasant, quiet place to chat. The wood doves cooed in the stillness; a leaf fluttered slowly down, or a seed fell; and occasionally the harsh cry of the jay jarred the silence; a humming bird, ever causing a thrill of delight, flitting from flower to flower, came out of repose and then away. Here our Anns retired to their favorite seat for a visit; one or the other toying with the branch of a creeping plant that hung above them. A squirrel stirred at times, sliding around a tree trunk or scampering to a distance, lending an interest that was enchanting. It was a pleasant place even in the evening when the house, the garden and the wood lay quiet under the darkness. The wind often sighed through the oaks, and here and there an acorn could be heard to fall. The frogs croaked in the pool and occasionally a bat swooped around them in circles in a silence which each found to be eloquent. Here they met often. Their husbands were cheerful men, light hearted, full of intelligence and courage. They were great friends, and like Romulus and Remus, were always mentioned together. They, in a playful way, began to call this trysting place of the Anns "Ann's Arbor," and from this our beautiful city got its name.

The settlement grew with almost incredible rapidity and was beginning to shine with splendor. In 1825 there were nine small houses in Ann Arbor. Elisha W. Rumsey lived at the Washtenaw Coffee House, John Allen where the Ann Arbor Savings Bank now stands; two small houses stood on the north-west corner of Main and Ann streets, occupied by James and George W. Noyes, two brothers; near the "Cook House," now the Allenal Hotel, was a frame house occupied by Cornelius Osterhaut, a carpenter and joiner; a log house stood near the northeast corner of Washington and Main streets; and up in the woods, farther south on Main street, Alva Brown lived in a log house. (This does not give the location of Dr. David Lord's home.)

Two years later the village boasted of three stores, three new taverns, thirty cabins and a population of one hundred and fifty. Thus this new town in the wilderness and the enterprise of its first proprietors moved on, prospered, and bade fair to realize in full their hopes and expectations. A. DeForest came and located in this town when there were eleven houses here. He was a contractor and builder and erected many of the substantial buildings. He also had a grocery, drug and agricultural implement business. Later he invested his means in a book store under the Gregory House, now the Ann Arbor Savings Bank Building.

This same year A. Sperry and brother started the first blacksmith shop.

Supplies and merchandise were brought through the woods and mud in wagons by way of Plymouth, or in boats from Detroit, pushed up the river to Snow's Landing and from there conveyed by wagons.

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STATE STREET

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(Ann Arbor)
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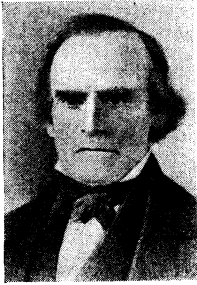
310 SOUTH STATE ST.

H. L. Sweitzer Co.

Prompt Delivery

Right Prices

Nathan Thayer and his son, Captain Thayer, arrived in 1824.



BETHUEL FARRAND

Bethuel Farrand traveled on foot from Aurelius, a part of Auburn, N. Y., by way of the southern bank of Lake Erie, to submit a proposition for supplying Detroit with water, in 1825. Having succeeded in his object, he returned home through Canada. In May of the same year, accompanied by Rufus Wells and their families, they came to Detroit and immediately entered upon the construction of water works. Mr. Farrand had heard a good deal about Ann Arbor and was determined to locate here, so in the fall of that year he transferred his interest in the Detroit contract to Mr. Wells, and he removed his family to Ann Arbor and was given shelter with Dr. Lord for six weeks until he built his shanty at the corner of Williams and Main streets.

Mr. Farrand was elected Probate Judge in Washtenaw county and presided as Judge at the first session of county court held April 2, 1827. At the first meeting of the Presbyterian Society, the first Monday in September, 1827, Mr. Farrand was chosen moderator.

A small rain was falling and the afternoon was well advanced when Henry Welch, with his family, came here one fall day in 1826. He was a prominent and successful merchant, and was located on the southwest corner of Main and Huron streets.

Taking advantage of opportunities offered in a new country, Edward Clark arrived in 1827 and opened up a store of general merchandise on the east side of Main street, near Washington. David and Jonathan Ely were already merchants here at this time. Hethcot Mowey became a merchant here in 1830, and Judge Edward Mundy and O. H. Thompson in 1831. About this time William S. Maynard became landlord of the tavern in Allen's Block house and opened a store in the frame building adjoining.

In 1827 Anson Brown opened a general retail store on Main street. Later he purchased land of Andrew Nowland, built a dam across the river and erected a grist mill there. Opposite this he put up a brick block, occupying the center part for a store. In 1832 he received the appointment of Postmaster and moved the office to the lower village. He brought the mail up to the upper village and distributed it from his hat to the people on the street. The Huron Block on the southeast side of Broadway was built by Brown and Fuller. In 1832 this firm (Brown & Fuller) platted what is known as the Brown & Fuller addition to Ann Arbor. Justice Gooding built the Washtenaw House in 1832, and in 1834 Dr. Kellogg's building was built by Chester Ingals.

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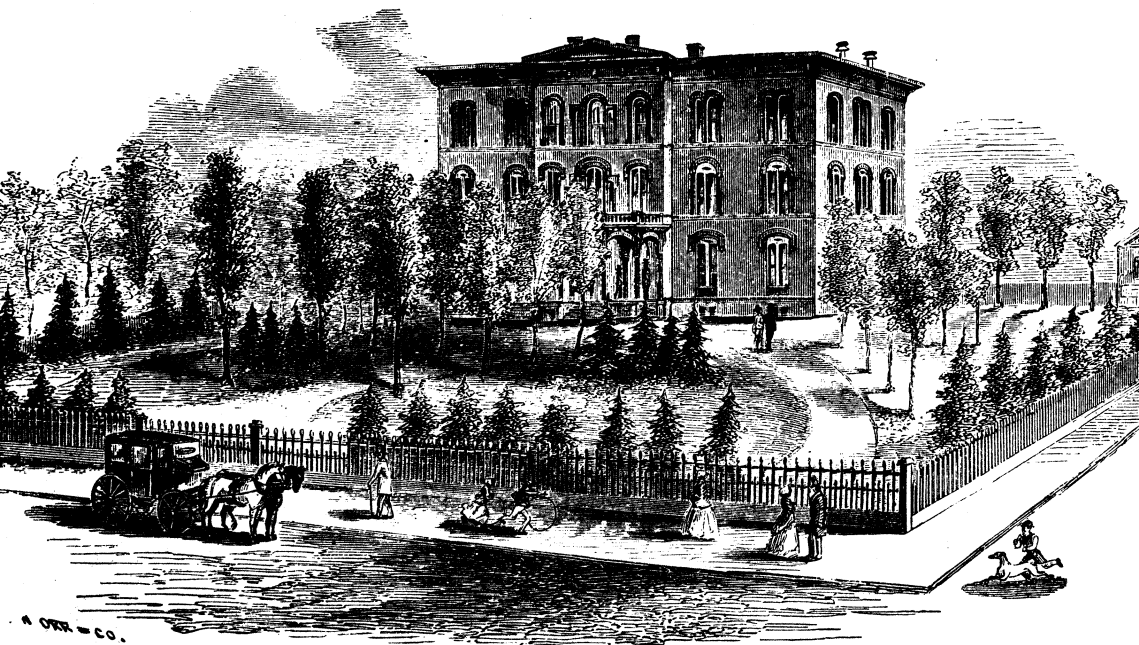
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ANN ARBOR, MICH.



ANN ARBOR HIGH SCHOOL 1856



LOREN MILLS

Loren Mills was apprenticed to a merchant tailor at Buffalo when sixteen years old. In February, 1824, a fine looking man came into the store to have a coat mended. This stranger was John Allen, of Virginia. He gave Mr. Mills and his employer an interesting description of this new region, which aroused Mr. Mills' curiosity. In about three months he sent his brothers, Simeon and Augustus, out to look over this land for their father, coming here when the "Arbor" was still in use. Upon reaching home they gave a glowing account of this country and its possibilities. Preparations were duly made and in 1826 Asa, his wife, and some of the children migrated to Ann Arbor. They boarded a schooner at Canneuat, N. Y., and brought their household goods, two yokes of oxen and a cow. Loren came for a visit in June, of this year. From Detroit he came by stage, driven by Bethuel Farrand by way of Plymouth. He describes Allen's house as a two-story, hewn log house, clap-boarded on the outside.

He was pleased with Ann Arbor for a location, so went to Buffalo and arranged to return in October of the same year. He opened up the first tailor shop west of Detroit. Mr. Mills put up the first brick house, in 1830, corner of Liberty and Main streets. The bricks were made by his brother, about two miles east of town.

Mr. Mills was a member of the band that escorted Lafayette and his son from Dunkirk to Buffalo and was formally introduced to the Nation's distinguished guest. He also played at the formal opening of the Erie Canal.

The Mills family comprised fourteen children, ten of whom lived to middle life, married and became heads of families; all were proficient singers; all were pioneers; all were pledged to total abstinence; all were abolitionists, and all became Republicans. Their father (Asa) died in Ann Arbor, in 1827. His wife died in Galesburg, years after. A better tribute cannot be paid his entire family than the one given by the Pioneer Historic Society: "They were born with a richer and rarer inheritance than earthly treasures—a love and desire to do good and benefit the race."

Loren Mills was great uncle to Mrs. J. Harry McCormick (Mrs. Mabel Mills-McCormick) of this city.

In 1827, the Mills brothers (seven of them) organized a band. Their instruments were the flute, bassoon, houthoy, clarinet, and drum. A musical festival was a novel and pleasant entertainment, and many hours were spent by the old settlers listening to the sweet strains as discoursed by this band. The settlement was never lacking in entertainment and social activities. We are told that John Allen's father was a violinist and played while the villagers danced at two balls held at Rumsey's Coffee House.

The third ball was in the winter of 1826, at the inauguration of the Masonic lodge, and held in the double log house of John Allen.

The place round the open door was pitch dark. Wagons were soon seen along the paths, on either side of which was

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I do not ask you to lose time from your business in taking baths or treatment—just phone 895-W and make an appointment, we both save time that way.

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Yours very truly,

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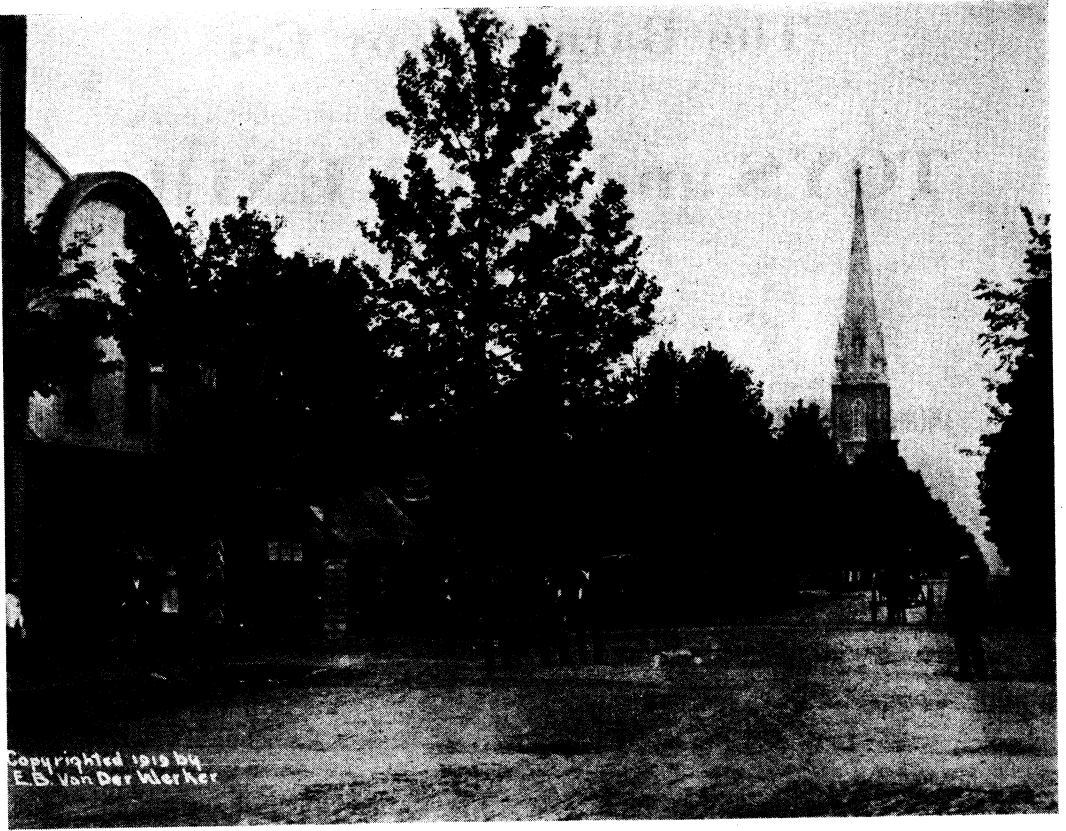
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(Loaned by Mayor Wurster)

STATE STREET, SHOWING SHEEHAN STORE.

close wood, and the lanthorns of the approaching participants of this festivity shone like moving glow worms. The guests from Detroit were General Cass, Judge Witherill, O. Cook, L. Cook, General Larned, General Schwartz, James Abbott and Nathan Newell.

A table nicely set awaited the guests. They stood looking at it before seating themselves, while General Cass was asked to be toastmaster. We can picture him at the center of the table. A mingled perfume of wild turkey, deer, cranberries and honey pervaded the place. General Cass, full of affability and good humor, presided gayly during the supper, and a tempest of laughter and jokes ensued, till all was one burst of hilarious mirth.

Having supped well, they were disposed to enjoy themselves in the dance. A thousand chords vibrated in the hearts of this assembly and there was a sea of heads moving gracefully in a maze of beauty to the soft swell of music. General Cass was renowned for his affability and he was unusually merry and hilarious at this festivity and became a great favorite of the ladies by dancing with everyone present.

As the company was getting ready to leave, which was, by the way, at a late hour in the morning, all stood outside and as General Cass and suite passed along in the big lumber wagon

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AMERICAN BROACH & MACHINE CO.

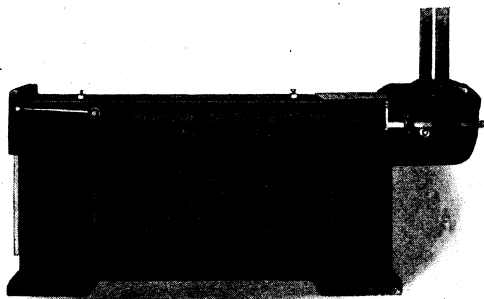
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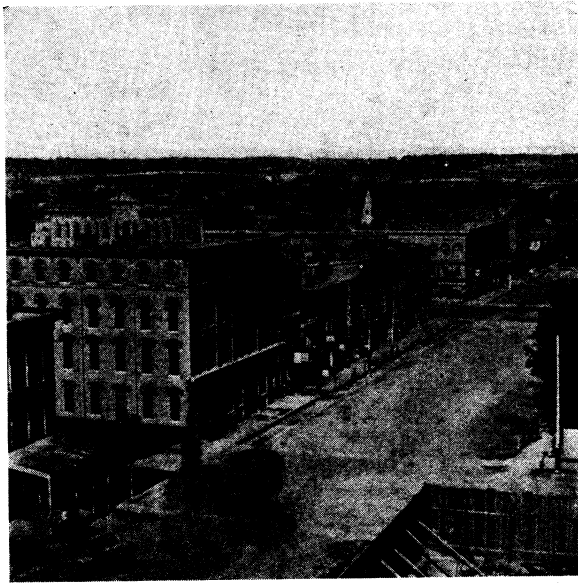
BELL PHONE 525

211 S. FOURTH AVE.

they acknowledged the waving of handkerchiefs by raising their hats, after which those who remained strayed off in groups for their horses, the farewells still in their ears. The group began to open and melt away, and each load looking back, could discern nothing but a dark, blurred mass.

Ann Arbor was platted as a village May 25, 1824.

John Allen gave the block of land for a Court House (present site) in 1824, thus making Ann Arbor a county seat from the start. Mr. Rumsey gave a block of land for a jail (south side of Liberty street between Fourth and Fifth avenues). The citizens contributed for a small jail building in 1829, which burned down a few years after. It contained rooms for the jailer and one cell. Israel Branch was the first jailer.



(Loaned by G. F. Allmendinger)

EAST HURON STREET, SHOWING COOK HOTEL.

The first militia company was organized in the county in 1825, with Mr. E. W. Rumsey as Captain.

The first Court House was built in 1834 and did service for forty-four years.

Messrs. Allen and Rumsey desired to make Ann Arbor a good town and did everything to further its progress.

In 1825 a postoffice was established, with John Allen as Postmaster. Bethuel Farrand was first mail carrier to Detroit and received \$100.00 a year for his services.

Anson Brown obtained the appointment of Postmaster in 1832 and removed the office to the lower village, where he had a dry goods store. A petition was sent to Washington recommending Charles Thayer for the position. They had nothing against Mr. Brown, but wanted to get the office back to the upper village. Mr. Thayer received the appointment and removed the office to the upper village. In the meantime Mr. Brown died of cholera.

Hiram Thompson was first mail carrier between Ann Arbor and Jackson. The trips at first were made by foot and as there

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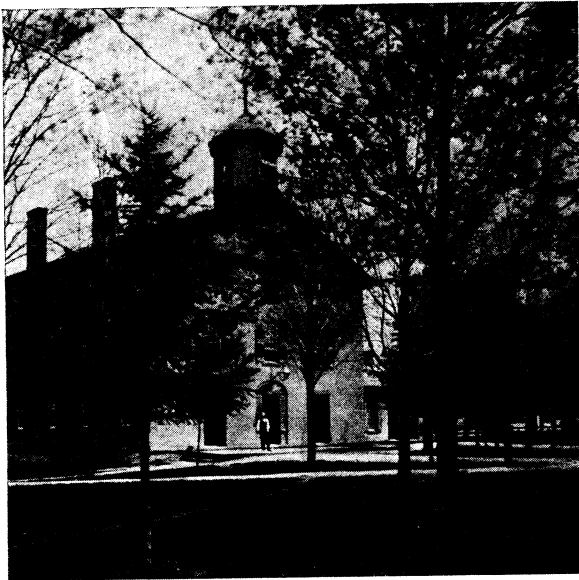
"Coal That is Right"

104 North Fourth Avenue

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were no bridges, he had to ford the creeks. He made the trip once a week. In those days there were no nicely sized letter papers, it being all old fashioned foolscap or demy. Envelopes had not been invented and the government had not progressed to the postage stamp era. Letters were folded in all kinds of shapes, square, long, triangular, and in rolls, sealed with great daubs of red, yellow or black sealing wax.

Among the privations of the early settlers, not the least was the difficulty of hearing from the friends they had left at "the east." Not only were the mails slow and uncertain, but the postage of a letter was twenty-five cents, a fourth of a man's pay for a hard day's work. So expensive a treat could not be often indulged in, and accordingly, it seldom happened that more than one or two letters were exchanged in the course of a year by a single emigrant family.



(Loaned by G. F. Allmendinger)

FIRST COURT HOUSE.

na 3088

The Four Earliest Churches.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized August 26, 1826. Israel Branch was elder, deacon and sexton. Bethuel Farrand served also as elder, holding the post for twenty-one years.

This church had its organization in the log school house that stood on the northwest corner of Main and Ann streets. Later, services were held in the ball room of a tavern, corner of Main and Huron streets; later in an unfinished room in Cook's Hotel, then in a school house, corner of Washington Street and Fifth Avenue, and finally in a school house on old jail square. Their first building was built in 1829 of frame, on the present site, size 25x35 feet, with an uncovered belfry at the front, containing a bell. A twenty-foot addition was added later. In 1837 another edifice was erected farther west, on Huron Street, and was used until the present structure was built. The bell of the first church was transferred to the belfry of the Court House

Electrical Household Appliances:

Toaster, percolator and grill for table cooking.

Electric range, which is the last word in efficient cooking appliances.

Iron and washing machine to lighten the Monday and Tuesday work.

Air heaters for cold, frosty mornings and evenings.

Mazda lamps, which we renew free of charge in 40, 60 and 100 watt sizes.

*All Lengthen Days and Increase the
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Ann Arbor

Established 1905

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¶ We do the largest Amateur Finishing in the State because our facilities are the best. Bring us your next film and be convinced.

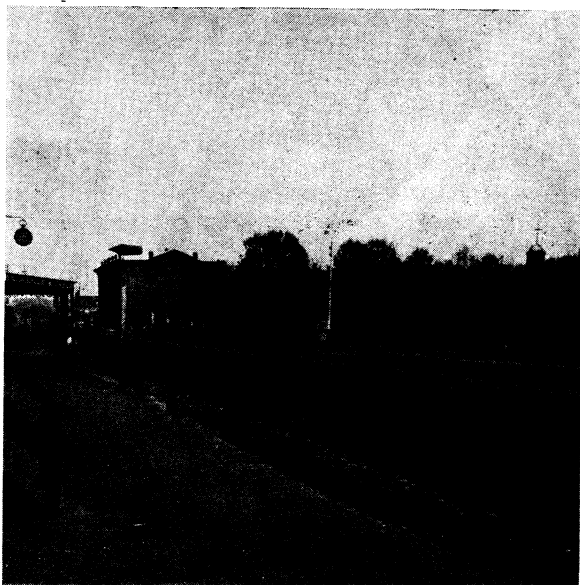
Two doors from Hill Auditorium

At the Sign of the Kodak

where, for many years, it called the people to gatherings of many kinds.

The Methodist Society was organized July 29, 1827, and Ann Arbor was included for the first half year in the Monroe Circuit, but in the next half year was shifted to the Detroit Circuit. Until 1833 services were held every two weeks. The basement was ready for use in November, 1837, and the body in 1839. This was situated on the corner of State street and Washington street. (Present site.)

St. Andrews Church was organized in the fall of 1827. For a number of years services were held in the school house on the corner of Washington street and Fifth avenue, and later in a brick school house on "Old Jail Square;" subsequently the lot on Division street was purchased and a frame edifice was erected just north of the present church site.



(Loaned by Andrew Andrews, Second Hand Store)
EAST HURON STREET, SHOWING ANN ARBOR SAVINGS BANK.

For a number of years this stood without any interior or exterior color decoration, but finally was painted white with green blinds. The interior arrangements were old fashioned and primitive, with its high pulpit and reading desk with black coverings trimmed with yellow cord and tassels. These were lighted by candelabra with glass drops. Pews of uniform size ran through the middle of the church and each pew holder furnished a bit of carpet, together with cushions and footstools. The wall pews were all square structures, each containing a table in the center and a shelf running round the walls, where lamps or candlesticks, brought by the occupants, were set for the evening service. Lamps were bought in 1848. This edifice was torn down in 1880 and a rectory built on its site. The new stone church was completed in 1869.

This location had been a grove where picnics were held. A big celebration was given here when the State came into the Union. S. K. Jones made the speech and there were many toasts.

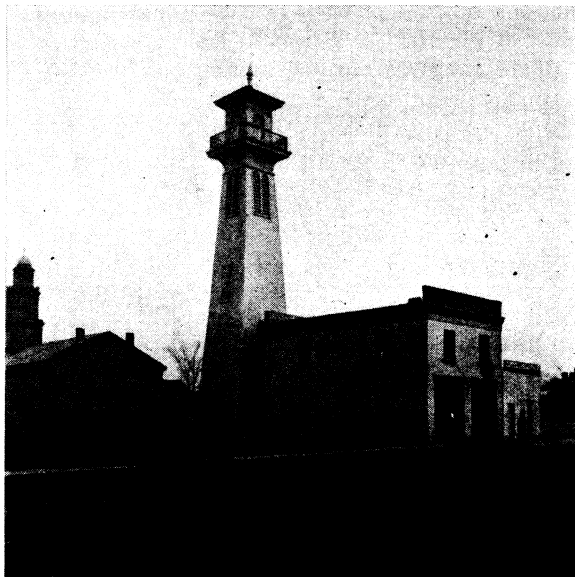


BUTLER Insurance

The first Baptist church was built in 1835, in lower town. Later this became the mission property of the M. E. church.

In June, 1849, the Baptists built their brick church on Catherine street. The present edifice on Huron street was occupied in August, 1832.

The furniture of the first school house, which was located at the northwest corner of Main and Ann. streets, consisted of a few benches and a chair. Miss Monroe, who started this school, died within a few months. Miss Harriet G. Parsons, who later became Mrs. Loren Mills, became her successor and taught in this building until in 1829, when a one-story building was erected on the southwest corner of "Jail Square" by sub-



(Loaned by G. F. Allmendinger)

FIRE ENGINE HOUSE, CORNER HURON STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE.

scription. This was used for religious as well as school purposes. This land was owned by the county. In about 1830, the board of supervisors added a story to this building, which was used as a "jury" or court room.

Among reminiscences of Judge Kingsley appears the following: "I was lay 'leader' for both the Episcopalians and Presbyterians, inculcating high-toned Calvinism in the forenoon and very different doctrine in the afternoon, from the same desk, as two congregations worshipped in the same house.

At a very early date literary societies were formed. The one for women was called the T. P. F. Society and such names as Minerva Rumsey, Julia Root, Almira G. Birs, Mary M. Lane, Lucy A. Clark, Martha Welch, Mary Welch (later Mrs. Hawkins), Abbey W. Hayes, and Maria Maynard are attached to the rules of the society. They met regularly for educational improvement, giving and answering questions in history and natural science.

In those days it was considered a terrible misdemeanor for a lady to go to a public place. In 1839, a Mrs. Cumming said "that with regret and mortification of feeling she had to ac-

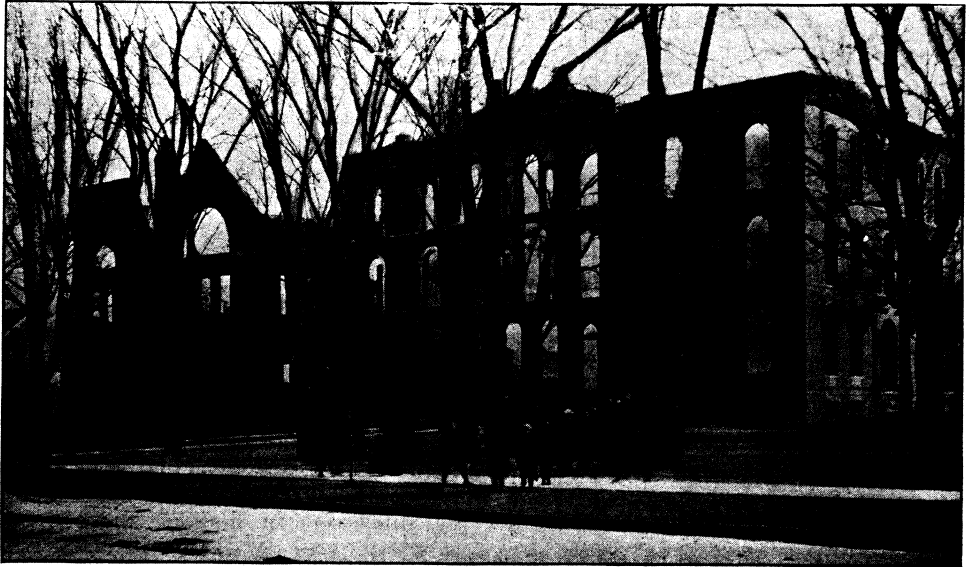
The first flour mills in Ann Arbor date from 1826. The first mill located near the present Argo power house was built in 1832 and the present Ann Arbor City Mills and Ann Arbor Central Mills are in direct line of succession from this mill. No other industry has supplied for the people of Washtenaw County the enormous amount of food which has been prepared by these plants, and it may be said by all of the long line of proprietors that each in turn has taken pride in his products and striven to give to his customers the very best goods that were possible through the use of the most improved machinery of his time.

The mills have supplied flour throughout the entire section east of the Mississippi River and at no time has the standard of excellence been equal to that of today. The flour is used not only throughout Washtenaw County and the State of Michigan, but is shipped steadily to the New England States, Middle and Southern States, while large quantities go for export. The Michigan Milling Company supplies a full line of feeds and deals largely in grains, beans and field seeds. Its food products are the following:

Roller King All Purpose Flour
Mimico Bread Flour
Mimico Pastry Flour
Mimico Graham Flour
Mimico Buckwheat Flour
Mimico Rye Flour
Mimico Golden Meal
Mimico Breakfast Food

Michigan Milling Company

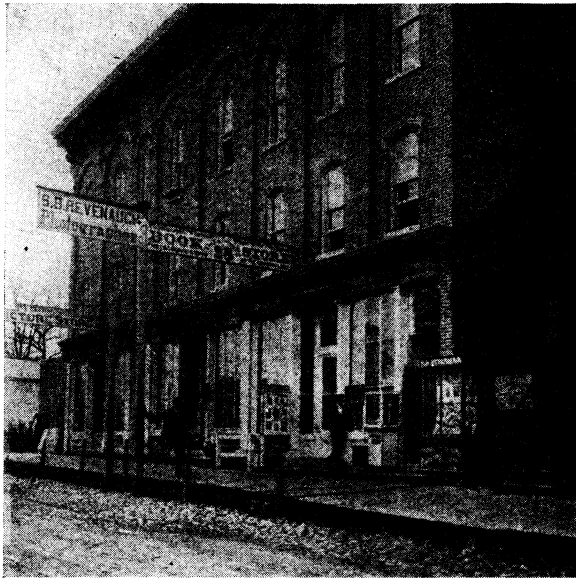
City Mills on North Main Street
Central Mills on South First Street
Buckwheat and Corn Meal Mills on West Washington Street



ANN ARBOR HIGH SCHOOL, AFTER THE FIRE DEC. 31, 1904

knowledge that she had that day been to the postoffice." She was obliged to go, and she was probably the only lady who had done such a thing.

Colonel Orrin White settled on land just outside Ann Arbor in 1824. He came when the town consisted of two or three log houses, one of which was used on "training days" for the State Militia. Mr. White was made captain of this body and subsequently colonel. He, together with his family, attended the big Fourth of July celebration held on the south side of Court House Square in 1827. His yoke of oxen became frightened during the ceremony and ran away, causing the owner and his family to walk three miles to their home. History records of him that "he dies full of years and honors." Loren Mills' band furnished the music for this celebration. Forty persons sat down to a table that was spread under a "bower" of brush, as there were no trees in this plot of ground at that time.



(Loaned by Andrew Andrews, Second Hand Store)

SOUTH SIDE HURON STREET—200 BLOCK—SHOWING HOME LAUNDRY.

Eber White was seized with the "western fever" in 1823, and started out to reconnoiter in this part of the country. He came at a time of year when the forest was green with luxuriant foliage; flowers of every hue and color abounded in rich profusion; the rivers abounded with the many colored fins of the piscatorial swarms; and game of all descriptions roamed over the prairies and through the underbrush at will. To him this was a "paradise on earth," and he could hardly wait to get home to tell of the wonderful elysium he had found. He returned, bringing a young bride with him, stopped with George Allen until he "rolled up" a log cabin as it was said at that time. In 1840 he built a larger house than the old cabin, located on West Liberty street (across from the cabin) within the present city limits. He was always interested in the advancement of education or religion and was one of the six of the first class of the Methodist church. In politics he was an "Old-line Whig," and

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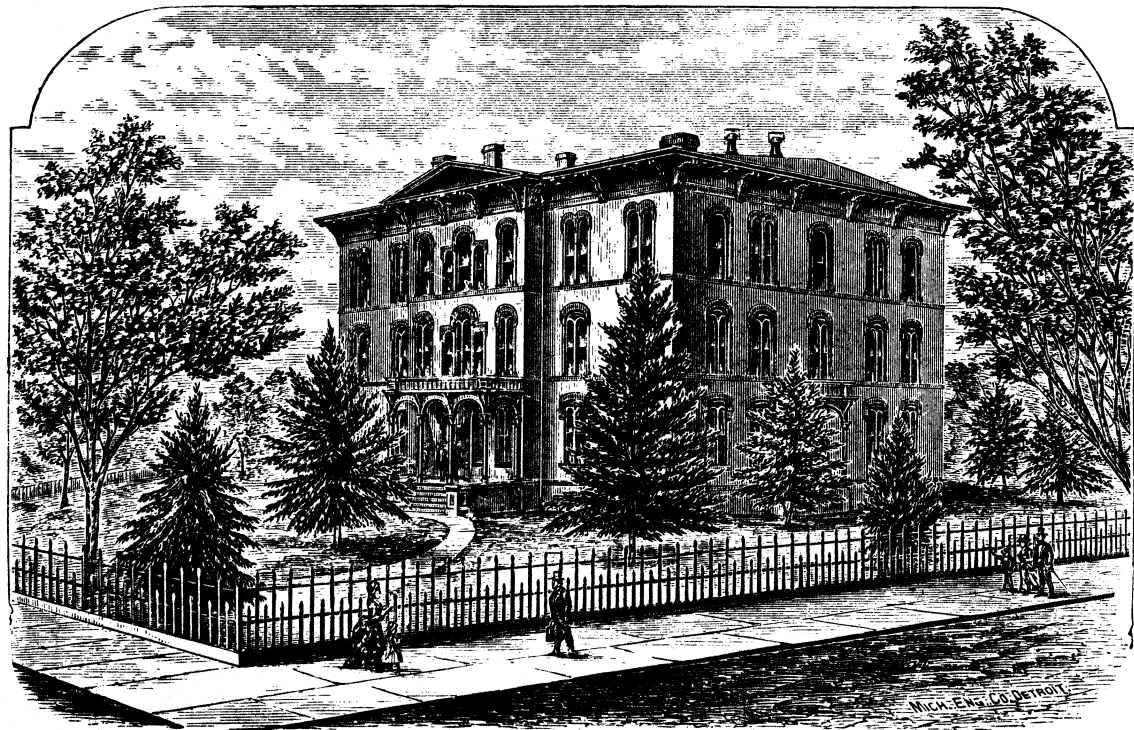
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G. C. ROHDE, Prop.

101-113 N. Ashley St.

Ann Arbor, Mich.



ANN ARBOR HIGH SCHOOL 1871

in slavery days was a prime mover in the underground railroad, and many a slave after reaching Canada has thanked God for help given by his trustworthy friends.

Mr. White has filled the following positions in the militia of the State: In 1831 was appointed Ensign by Lewis Cass; in 1832, Lieutenant, by Governor George B. Porter; in 1835, Lieutenant Colonel, First Division, Second Brigade, First Regiment, by Governor Stevens T. Mason.

James Hiscock passed through a little settlement named Ann Arbor in 1824, when John Allen, Mr. Rumsey and a few others inhabited the place, and purchased 300 acres of land which has since been included into the corporate limits of this city. The family had made their home in Pennsylvania for twelve years and made the trip from there by wagon and a three-horse team, arriving October 29, 1829. Mr. and Mrs. Hiscock died a few years after their migration here, about 1840. Daniel was the oldest child and upon him devolved the care of the younger children until they were old enough to care for themselves.

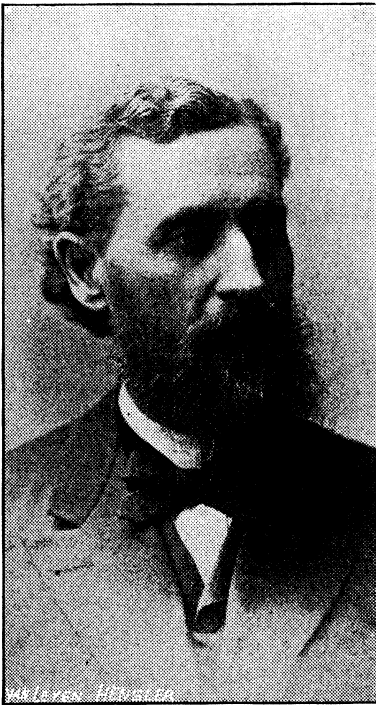
In 1847, Daniel married Maria White, a daughter of Eber and Polly White, and three children were born to them, Charles E., Edward, and Mary, who married a prominent attorney of Chicago. Mr. Hiscock held the office of supervisor and was engaged in mercantile pursuits in this city for a while. By energy and industry, Mr. Hiscock accumulated a substantial estate. He was a public spirited man, whose actions were characterized by benevolence.

John Geddes and brother Robert came to Ann Arbor July 14, 1824, to look over the land. They were here while the Rum-

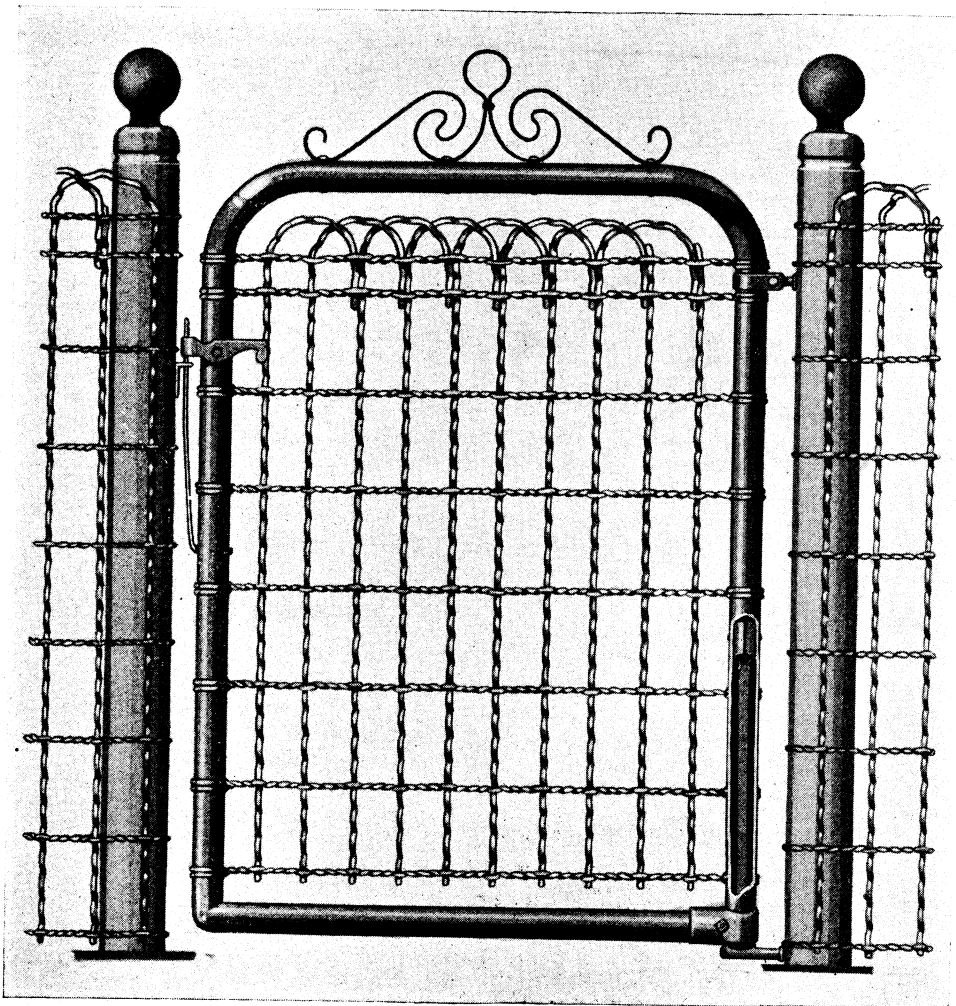
sey house was being built and described it "as a very low half-story high with no rafters." He says also "that John Allen was putting up in a tent north of this house, while Mr. Rumsey and wife occupied the house and entertained people who came viewing the land."

Messrs. Geddes paid for their land July 21, 1824, then returned to their home in Pennsylvania. May 11, 1825, found them again in Ann Arbor. They settled in Ann Arbor township, where they built a "shanty" about ten feet square, with roof and sides of slabs. This served them as a shelter for two years.

In the fall of 1826 Mr. Robert Geddes built a saw mill on the Huron near his land and "Uncle John Geddes" worked for his brother. They were popular men and known all through the county.



W. S. PERRY, SUPT. HIGH SCHOOL
1870-1897



Swings Either Way

Patented

Latches Either Way

A GATE THAT IS A GATE--SELF-CLOSING AND SELF-LATCHING

Costs no more than a common gate. The frame is made of heavy steel tubing filled with any of our different fence fabrics. You will notice the self-closing mechanism is inside the tube where rain or snow will not affect it—simple and nothing to get out of order.

We manufacture Farm Gates to your order, also Ornamental Lawn Fences of all kinds, Flower Guards, Trellis Window Guards, Wire Partitions, and Wire Fabric for all purposes.

ANN ARBOR WIRE FABRIC CO.

334 Hoover Ave.

Ann Arbor, Michigan

The only Gate and Fence Factory in Washtenaw County

Community Oven.

During the first years of the settlement of Ann Arbor there was a community oven. This was built of stone plastered with mud, out of doors. Here the ladies came to bake their bread and beans. It became a custom to have baked beans on Sunday morning and one Sunday when they went for them, they were gone. The Indians had gotten there first and had taken them. It is said this oven was near the Rumsey house and the ladies would sit in the "Arbor" while waiting for their baking.

D. B. Brown assisted his father for seven years upon a contract for the Erie Canal. During this time he was careful of his expense and saved enough money to purchase a drove of cattle which he took to New York City and sold. With the proceeds of this deal he bought a canal boat, with horses, and engaged for a time in traffic on the Erie Canal. He was one of fifty young men who rode horseback to meet Lafayette at Niagara Falls and escort him to Lockport, N. Y. In 1826 Mr. Brown brought a load of salt to Detroit. He came to Ann Arbor for a visit and was so pleased with this part of the country that he went back east, took unto himself a help-meet, and returned the next year, bringing an abundant supply of dried fruits. He immediately opened up a general store with his brother Anson as partner. They were in business together for four years, located in the south part of the store now occupied by the Woolworth store on Main street. Mr. Brown continued in the store, trading with the Indians, taking cranberries, wild honey and furs, which he shipped to New York, in exchange for dry goods and edibles. He then became associated in business with Lieutenant Governor Munday's nephew until he received the appointment of superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad. He was one of the original members of the Baptist Church and was deacon for forty-seven years.

John Schumaker was one of the earliest settlers. He learned the hardware business and started business for himself at 68 South Main street.

Hon. James Kingsley was one of the enterprising and educated men who came into the wilderness of this new country, settling here in 1826. His first year was spent clearing his land, as at this time no court had been established and no business complications demanded professional services or judicial investigation. He was a prominent member of this community, sometimes engaging in professional labors, sometimes in more general pursuits, and sometimes in the performance of official duties. He was the first attorney admitted to practice at this bar and was a true advocate of the great principles of the law. He cared little for the technicalities of the profession and was always on the side of right and justice. History tells us that he never soiled his hands with the tricks of the pettifogger and that his retirement from office was without a stain upon his reputation, or the whisper of doubt as to the purity of his acts or motives. "Honest Jim Kingsley" was the familiar though homely appellation on the tongues and the hearts of all who knew him. In 1830 he married Miss Ann Clark and took her to a home he had built on the corner of Detroit and Kingsley streets. This house was so fine at that time that it was called "Kingsley's Castle."

Judge Henry Rumsey was among the settlers who located in Ann Arbor in 1826.

In 1826 Judge Dexter established a private postoffice in his own home and carried mail on horseback to and from Ann Arbor once a week.

A number of private schools of high standing have been opened and served for a number of years. The most prominent was the seminary for young ladies, taught by the Misses Clark. This school was in existence thirty-seven years.

Solon Cook, a harness maker, with his wife, settled here in 1830. He opened up a harness shop in a small building and conducted this until he purchased the tavern built by Ira W. Bird, southeast corner of Main and Huron streets. Later he purchased the premises on the southwest corner of Fourth avenue and Huron street, which had been occupied by Charles Thayer. It was a frame building and Mr. Cook transformed it into a hostelry and became its proprietor, adding two additions at different times. This building was moved off in 1871, to make room for the present structure. Mr. Cook was proprietor of this hotel for thirty-seven years and always ran a temperance house.

It is not possible in a small space to give a complete history of Ann Arbor, but the writer of these few pages finds that progress has been made from the time that Allen and Rumsey settled here.

Nature has made this section of the country beautiful; it has granted it a soil that is rich and has made good water power available. The American pioneer has made this region useful by transforming the soil into fields that yield sustenance for the life of man, and by utilizing the water of the rivers for the purpose of industry.

Fifty years made a wonderful difference in the condition of the country. Farms were cultivated more easily and profitably by machinery, worked by horses or steam. Shanties and log cabins were replaced by more comfortable dwellings. Everything to save labor could be purchased for the home—gas, hot air furnaces, and sewing machines. Railroads had been built so people could travel and the telegraph system became a reality so that messages could be sent anywhere throughout the United States.

From the earliest period, the citizens of Ann Arbor have given much attention to educational matters. School has been the theme of gossip and inquiry from the pioneer era to the present time. Education has always been fostered and cherished by the people, and from an humble beginning has been raised to great heights. The existence of the University of Michigan renders this city an attractive place of residence for cultured people. It furnishes not only advantages for young men and women, but also opportunities for intellectual enjoyment and culture for all residents of the place.

Chamber of Commerce

The Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce was organized during the months of February and March of the present year. It was brought about by the consolidation of the Merchants Credit Association and Civic Association. Its birth was due primarily to a demand by many for a strong central body, which could assist in the development of Ann Arbor, along civic, commercial and industrial lines.

Since its organization it has acquired splendid offices in the Times-News building. It also maintains a credit branch, which operates for the benefit of those who desire credit service and ratings.

It has a strong Board of Directors, truly representative of the interests of Ann Arbor. The Board is striving to carry out the objective of the organization, which in a general way, is co-operation, unity of effort, and a oneness in team spirit. It seeks to pull together all the interests of the city and county and to serve the city in a spirit that will intensify local pride and bring greater happiness and contentment to all. It seeks to be an instrument of service only. It desires to co-operate with other groups working to attain the same end, with no thought of overlapping any municipal body or organization.

From the records of the Chamber of Commerce to date, it seems almost incredible that so many things could come up for consideration in a city the size of Ann Arbor. The record of each day's work shows that it is a hustling institution, and has been serving Ann Arbor to capacity.

The Chamber of Commerce membership is composed of strong, virile, progressive men who know that nothing can be accomplished unless it is by co-operation, and who want to do the right thing for Ann Arbor, by making Ann Arbor a good commercial center, with good clean-cut industries, and at the same time keep it a city beautiful.

Everything cannot be accomplished in a day, but many important matters are being supported by the Chamber of Commerce, and it is assisting wherever it is possible to do some good.

It has a very bright future. Its future is limited only by the activities of its members.

The Directors and Officers are as follows:

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Frank Leverett
A. J. Braun
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E. T. Cope
H. J. Abbott
William Walz
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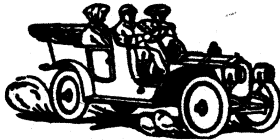
INSURANCE OFFICE

209 East Huron Street

Do you realize why your rates are so high? There are three reasons. ~ The Arson Ring, Poor Housekeeping, Dishonest Claimants. ~ The honest public are paying the shot as usual. Why not rid society of this evil? ~ Report suspicious fires to the State Fire Marshal. ~ It is your duty as a good citizen.



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Goods Well Bought Are Half Sold.

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We Have Our Own Delivery.

Pierce's Cash Grocery

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Directors of the Farmers *and* Mechanics Bank direct not merely in name, but in fact; its officers are courteous, attentive and efficient.

All are representative citizens of known responsibility and integrity.

We shall welcome the opportunity of counting you among our host of satisfied patrons.

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